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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A solid-state image pickup apparatus with a shortened signal reading out time in performing, for example, a light measurement control even in an application in which 5 photosensitive cells are highly integrated, and a method of reading out a signal. With a digital still camera, in a mode set by a mode setting section, a system control section controls a drive signal generator to generate a drive signal. Light from an objective imaging field is incident onto an image pickup 10 device through a color separation filter having color filters at least one of three separated colors arranged in a column direction. The image pickup device photoelectrically converts the incident light by each of photosensitive cells incorporated therein, receives the drive signal on a signal reading out 15 gate, and performs a transfer of signal charge. A signal reading out only for the one of separated colors is in turn performed taking account of the arrangement of the color filter segments of color separation filter.